there is a demand for a college, it cannot be opened. Sufficient data have got to be collected, and we are collecting data to find out whether there is any necessity for a college there.''

Enhancement of fixed travelling allowance granted to foresters.

* 377 *Q.*—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of fixed travelling allowance given to foresters and the basis on which this was fixed;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the pay of the foresters was revised and increased from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per mensem; and

(*c*) if so, why the fixed travelling allowance was not proportionately increased?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) Foresters are paid a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 13–2–0 per mensem in the plains and Rs. 19–11–0 in hill stations, if they do a minimum touring of twenty days in a month.

The rate of fixed travelling allowance has been decided taking into account the extent of the jurisdiction, the minimum period of touring and the status of the Government servant and the nature of conveyance used.

'' (*b*) The system of graded pay to foresters was replaced by time scale of pay.

'' (*c*) The matter was considered but it was not found possible to increase the rate owing to the financial implication.''

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—'' I am sure that the foresters are superior servants. But the Government are giving them daily allowance at the rate at which it is given to inferior servants. Is it not gross injustice on the part of the democratic Government to treat the superior servants as inferior servants in these days? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Foresters are paid in the scale of Rs. 50—85 per mensem. Foresters under Grades IX and X are entitled to a daily allowance of Rs. 2 under the Travelling Allowance Rules. There is no question of inferior or superior Government servants. If it is a question of injustice, that may be the view of the hon. Member.''

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—'' If Government consider this a wholesome principle to be applied in the case of foresters, will they apply it to all the Government servants and also to the Ministers with regard to their travelling allowance? ''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' The question may be addressed to a different quarter.''